



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 040894-7001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Masatomo YAMADA)
Application No.: 10/773,444) Group Art Unit: 2852
Filed: February 9, 2004) Examiner: Unassigned
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of each listed document is attached. The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a language other than English.

- a. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-11-109767. The relevance of this document is discussed at pages 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the specification of the present application.
- b. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-9-090779. The relevance of this document is discussed at pages 3, and 4 of the specification of the present application.
- c. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. JP-A-2002-341706. The relevance of this document is discussed at pages 3, and 4 of the specification of the present application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP



Robert J. Goodell, Reg. No. 41,040

Date: July 7, 2004

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 739-3000

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
<p>Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	